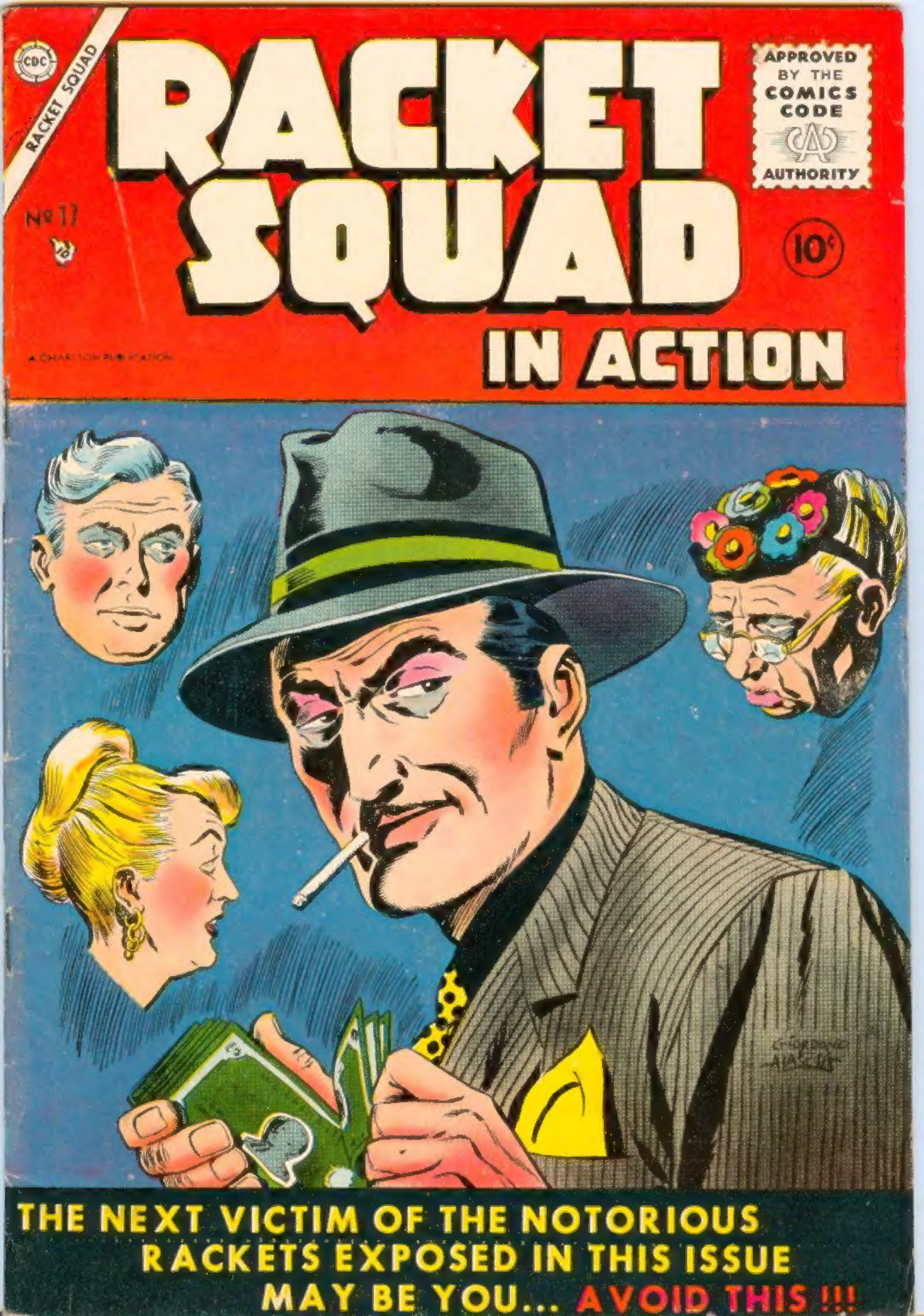

CDC
RACKET SQUAD
RACKET SQUAD
IN ACTION
No 11
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
A CHARLTON PUBLICATION
THE NEXT VICTIM OF THE NOTORIOUS RACKETS EXPOSED IN THIS ISSUE MAY BE YOU... AVOID THIS !!!

Come on, Buddy, Quit being A BAG-of-BONES Weakling like I was

IN 10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY YOU Can do ALL I did!

BEFORE

I gained 25 Terrific LBS. of HANDSOME POWER-PACKED MUSCLES all over!

I improved my HE-MAN LOOKS 1000%

I won NEW STRENGTH for money-making work! for WINNING at all SPORTS!

I won NEW POPULARITY Won NEW FRIENDS, BOYS & GIRLS NEW CHANCES for BUSINESS SUCCESS

Hi Pal! Win $100 as I just did!

"I'm PROUD to be seen with Jim NOW! Everybody admires his build," says Nellie. "Jim can lift the front of a 2700 lb. car. He amazes his friends!"

You'll be A Real ATHLETE in ALL SPORTS Soon after YOU mail Coupon

Jim is a WINNER in ALL SPORTS NOW. YOU will be, too, soon.

Now did I do ALL This? I mailed the Coupon and got These 5 PICTURE-PACKED HE MAN COURSES Which YOU can NOW get FREE

BEFORE $1 PRICE GOES BACK Millions Sold for $1

GET ALL 5 FREE

1 HOW TO BUILD A MIGHTY CHEST

2 I added 7 inches to my CHEST 3 inches to each ARM, says Robin Jackson

3 HOW TO BUILD A MIGHTY ARM

4 HOW TO BUILD A MIGHTY BACK

5 HOW TO BUILD A MIGHTY GRIP

HOW TO BUILD MIGHTY LEGS

COME ON, PAL, NOW YOU give me 10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR OWN HOME like Jim did and I'll give YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY for your OLD SKELETON FRAME

"Congratulations, John! At last you mailed the coupon as EVERY MAN should. Soon You'll be as big and strong as I am," says Jim Norman to John Luckus

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are I'll make you OVER by the SAME method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to your ARMS and CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle

YOU CAN WIN a BIG 15" SILVER CUP as I just did! with YOUR NAME engraved on it!

JIM NORMAN

AFTER He Mailed Coupon Below is Cleveland

BEFORE He Mailed Coupon

90 lb. Skeleton

He says, I gained 70 lbs. of mighty muscle

Mail the "ALL FREE" coupon get this "AMAZING SECRETS" Photo Book

You'll LOOK, FEEL, ACT, like A Real HE-MAN! Win Women and Men Friends Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity

AMAZING SECRETS How to Win MUSCLES and IRON MUSCLES and STEEL Secrets of Super Strength Expert Tests You Must Know You Can BECOME An All-American MAN in 10 minutes a day PHOTO BOOK

This BOOK will also show You HOW YOU CAN WIN $100.00 and a BIG 15" tall SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)

LAST CHANCE-ALL FREE COUPON

1. FIVE COURSES 2. MUSCLE METER 3. Photo Book of STRONG MEN

Dept. CH-53

Tell Me How To WIN $100, etc.

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING 220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4. How to Build a Mighty Back. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs. Now all in One Volume: "How to become a Mighty HE MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING. (No C.O.D.'s)

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

SAVES you YEARS and DOLLARS!!!

Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION Volume 1, Number 17 July, 1955

Published bimonthly by Charlton Comics Group. Executive offices and office of publication, Charlton Building, Derby, Conn. Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office, at Derby, Conn. Price per copy 10c. Subscription 12 issues, $1.20. Copyright 1955 by Charlton Comics Group. Printed in the U.S.A.

THIS WAS THE LONGEST BUILD-UP IN THE HISTORY OF THE RACKETS! HARRY BOLTON HAD BEEN LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR SIX YEARS NOW---MAKING THE CONTACTS, SPELLBINDING THEM, TAKING THEIR MONEY---BUT NOT TOUCHING A SINGLE CENT!.... GRAB YOURSELF AN EARFUL WHILE THE LATEST BUNCH OF SUCKERS FALLS UNDER THE SPELL OF ...

THE SMOOTHEST SPIEL OF THEM ALL!

I HAVE BEEN CALLED A MISGUIDED IDEALIST...A PROFESSIONAL CRUSADER...A FOOL CRYING DANGER WHEN THE DANGER NO LONGER EXISTS! BUT BELIEVE ME, LADIES--I KNOW! THE RACKETEERS ARE STILL AMONG US...LURKING IN THE SHADOWS...WAITING GREEDILY TO POCKET EVERY CENT OF THE MONEY YOU SO GENEROUSLY DONATE TO CHARITY!

GIORDANO MASCIA

NOW AFTER THE BURST OF FERVENT APPLAUSE --

THANK YOU, MR. BOLTON...THANK YOU!...AND NOW, LADIES, MR. BOLTON HAS CONSENTED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT HAVE OCCURRED TO YOU!

DURING THE LONG MOMENT'S SILENCE WHILE THE CLUB-WOMEN SILENTLY PHRASE THEIR QUESTIONS, HARRY BOLTON SMILES CHARMINGLY ...

THINK, SUCKERS, THINK HARD! IT'LL COME TO YOU....IT ALWAYS DOES AFTER THE WAY I WIND UP THESE LECTURES...THE EXACT QUESTION I WANT YOU TO ASK!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

HERE IT COMES!
MR. BOLTON, JUST HOW ARE WE TO KNOW THAT ANYONE CLAIMING TO REPRESENT A CHARITY ISN'T AN IMPOSTER!
A VERY INTELLIGENT QUESTION, MADAM! AND IT BRINGS US DIRECTLY TO THE MATTER OF FORGED CREDENTIALS!

THE RACKETEERS ARE CLEVER...EVEN WHEN CHALLENGED, THEY CARRY ENOUGH IMPRESSIVE CREDENTIALS TO FOOL THE LAY MAN! THAT'S WHY I RECOMMEND--AT ALL TIMES---IMMEDIATE CONSULTATIONS WITH RELIABLE AGENCIES WHOSE SOLE FUNCTION IS THE ACCREDITING OF COLLECTORS!

AFTER THE QUESTION PERIOD---
MR. BOLTON--W-WE KNOW HOW BUSY YOU ARE...BUT WE'VE ALL BEEN SO IMPRESSED BY YOUR LECTURE ...IF YOU COULD MANAGE TO--
TO HANDLE YOUR COMMUNITY'S POOLED DONATIONS?...ONLY ON ONE CONDITION, MADAM!

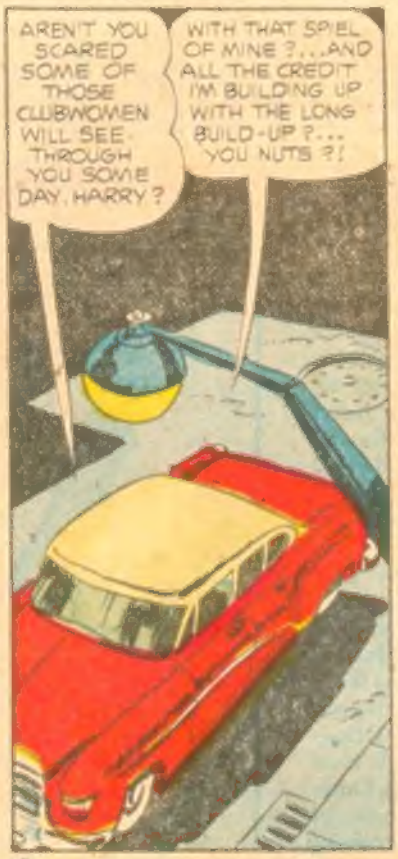
LATER---
HOW'D IT GO, HARRY?
LIKE A DREAM! THOSE FILTHY-RICH HAGS KEPT DROOLING ALL OVER ME! IT TOOK LESS THAN TWO HOURS TO WHIP THEM UP TO WHERE, THEY WERE BEGGING ME TO HANDLE THEIR DONATIONS!

BET YOU TOLD THEM TO CHECK WITH AN AGENCY FIRST--HUH, HARRY?
NATURALLY!....AND WHEN THOSE SUCKERS GO THROUGH THE CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY, THEY'LL FIND ONLY THE AGENCY WE SET UP OURSELVES JUST TWO MONTHS AGO!

AND AFTER HARRY GIVES HIMSELF A TOP RATING, THE MONEY STARTS FLOWING IN!..BUT HARRY IS CAREFUL TO BANK IT ALL WITHOUT TOUCHING A SINGLE CENT!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

WHY SETTLE FOR ONLY ONE HAUL?...THIS WAY I GO FROM CITY TO CITY ON MY 'LECTURE TOUR'...HOOK THE SUCKERS AND BANK THEIR DOUGH AFTER DOLING OUT A BIT TO CHARITY! SO EVERYTHING'S STRICTLY LEGAL---BUT THE MINUTE I DECIDE I'VE PILED UP ENOUGH --I CLEAR OUT ALL THE BANK ACCOUNTS AT ONCE!


AREN'T YOU SCARED SOME OF THOSE CLUBWOMEN WILL SEE THROUGH YOU SOME DAY, HARRY?
WITH THAT SPIEL OF MINE?...AND ALL THE CREDIT I'M BUILDING UP WITH THE LONG BUILD-UP?... YOU NUTS?!

AND NOW IN ANOTHER WEALTHY SUBURB--
IT'S YOUR SACRED DUTY TO SEE THAT MONIES MEANT FOR CHARITY GO ONLY TO BONA FIDE CHARITIES! YOU MUST STEEL YOURSELF TO TRUST NO ONE---NOT EVEN ME!

YOU'VE HOOKED THEM AGAIN, HARRY! BUT I STILL DON'T LIKE IT--ALL OUR DOUGH'S GOING OUT...INSTEAD OF COMING IN!
THIS MAKES OUR TWELFTH BANK ACCOUNT, BABY. WON'T BE LONG NOW...WE'LL BE ABLE TO RETIRE!

AND NOW HARRY'S WORKING ON HIS THIRTEENTH BANK ACCOUNT--
MR. BOLTON! I-I'VE NEVER BEEN SO THRILLED BY A LECTURE BEFORE!
THANK YOU, MADAM. I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF INSPIRED BY INTELLIGENT AUDIENCES.

D-DO YOU REALLY FEEL WE CAN TRUST NO ONE WHEN IT COMES TO DONATIONS?
SHE'S HANGING ON EVERY WORD I SAY. BET SHE'D JUMP OFF THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE IF I ASKED HER TO...!
IT'S NOT A PLEASANT THOUGHT, MADAM... BUT IT'S THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH!
3

You, Too, Can Be Tough!

GREATEST SELF-DEFENSE OFFER EVER MADE!

LIGHTNING JU-JITSU

Master Ju-Jitsu and you'll be able to overcome any attack—win any fight! This is what this book promises you! *Lightning Ju-Jitsu* will equip you with a powerful defense and counter-attack against any bully, attacker or enemy. It is equally effective and easy to use by any woman or man, boy or girl—and you don't need big muscles or weight to apply. Technique and the know-how does the trick. This book gives you all the secrets, grips, blows, pressures, jabs, tactics, etc. which are so deadly effective in quickly "putting an attacker out of business." Such as: Hitting Where It Hurts—Edge of the Hand Blow—Knuckle Jab—Shoulder Pinch—Teeth Rattler—Boxing the Ears—Elbow Jab—Knee Jab—Coat Grip—Bouncer Grip—Thumbscrew—Strangle Hold—Hip Throw—Shoulder Throw—Chin Throw—Knee Throw—*Breaking* a Wristlock, or Body Grip, or Strangle Hold—*Overcoming* a Hold-up, or Gun Attack, or Knife Attack, or Club Assault, etc. etc.—Just follow the illustrations and easy directions, practice the grips, holds and movements—and you'll fear no man.

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How to Perform STRONG MAN STUNTS

With every order we will send you ABSOLUTELY FREE this exciting book! It shows you the *secret way* in which YOU will be able to: tear a telephone book in half—hammer a nail into a board with your bare fist—rip a full deck of cards into two parts—crush and shatter a rock with a blow of your hand—and many other stupendous strong man stunts! All this will be easy for you using the confidential, hidden way shown in this amazing book! Don't miss this amazing combined offer—on our FIVE DAY TRIAL! If not delighted with your results, your money back at once.

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17 E. 45th St., New York 17, N. Y.

Please send LIGHTNING JU-JITSU, plus FREE copy of HOW TO PERFORM STRONG MAN STUNTS. If not satisfied I may return both books in 5 days and get my money back.

I enclose $1—*Send Postpaid* (*Sorry, No C.O.D.'s*)

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____ State_____

FREE 5 DAY TRIAL

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

Now the current 'job' is at the stage where the club-women have checked with the 'accrediting agency'--

MEANWHILE, AT THE RACKET SQUAD---
SOUNDS TO ME LIKE WE'LL ONLY BE WASTING TAX-PAYERS' MONEY.
COULD BE...BUT WE'VE HIT PAYDIRT ON EVEN SCREWIER HUNCHES!

We put only one operative on the case. He covers a lot of territory...talks to a lot of people...checks a lot of bank accounts...and by the time he hands in his report, we have the whole picture!

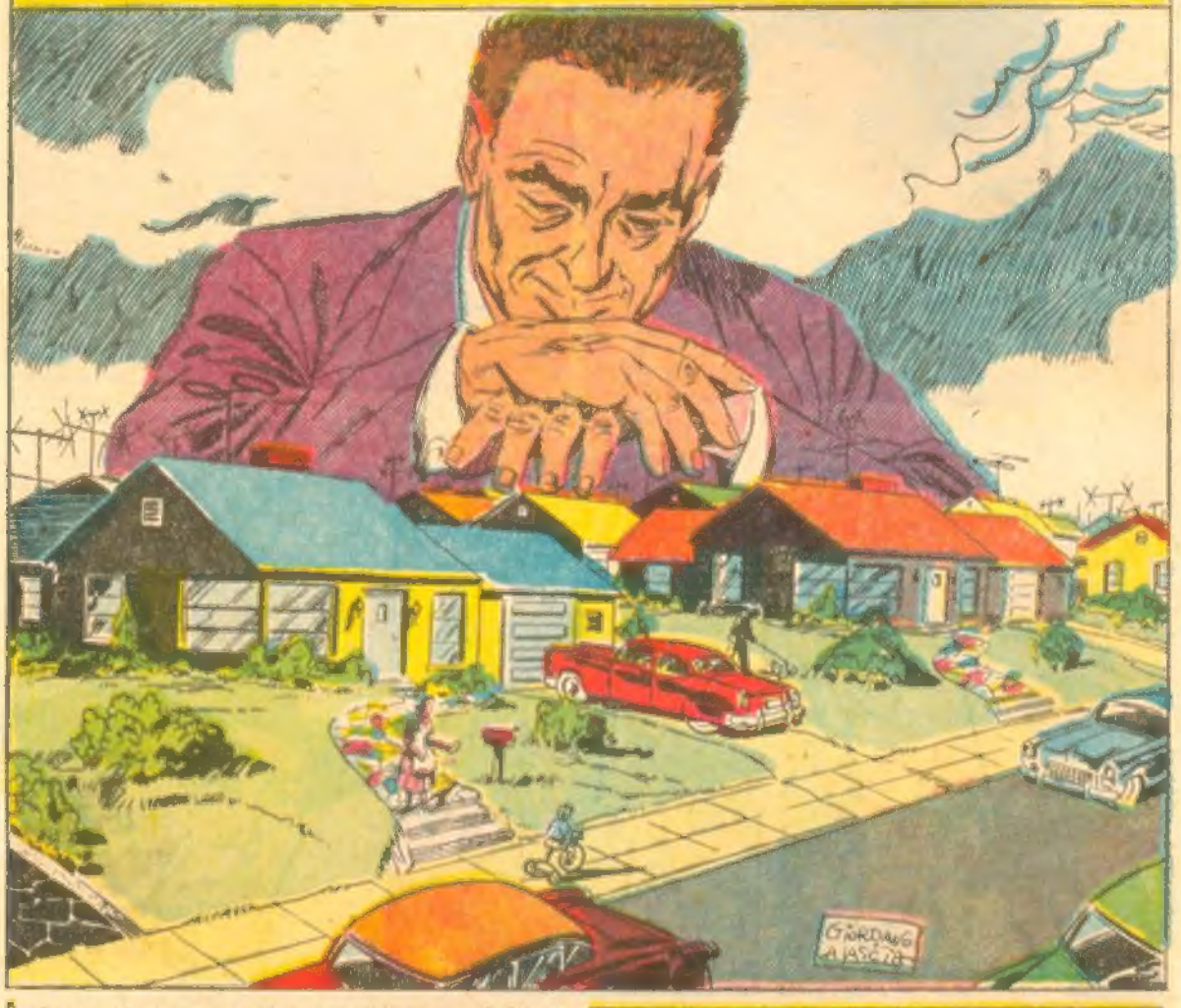
When we close in on Harry...

THIS IS JUST A FRIENDLY WARNING, HARRY. WE'RE SEND-ING YOUR PICTURE AND COM-PLETE HISTORY ALL OVER THE COUNTRY...SO THAT MEANS NO MORE PHONEY LECTURES, AND WE HAVE WATCHDOGS ON ALL YOUR BANK ACCOUNTS--- SO ALL IT'LL TAKE IS ONE PERSONAL WITHDRAWAL TO CLAP YOU BEHIND BARS..!

Harry's face sags. That big build-up ...all those years of work and outgoing money.. all gone right down the drain!

THIS LITTLE LADY WAS SO CONVINCED, SHE FELT SHE HAD TO DO JUST WHAT YOU TOLD HER TO! SO SHE NOT ONLY CHECKED ON YOU... SHE ALSO ASKED US TO CHECK THE AGENCY THAT OKAYED YOU! AND FROM THERE ON...THE REST WAS JUST LEGWORK!
THE END

SURE WE'LL BUILD YOUR PATIO!



LOOKING AT THEM, YOU'D HAVE SWORN UP AND DOWN THAT THEY WERE AN IDEAL YOUNG COUPLE JUST STARTING OUT IN MARRIED LIFE---AND EXCITED AS PUPPIES OVER THE NEW HOME THEY'D JUST BOUGHT.

THEY WERE ONE OF THE LAST TO MOVE INTO THE NEW DEVELOPMENT. BUT THEY MADE FRIENDS FAST...

LOOKING AT THEM, THE LAST THING THAT WOULD COME TO YOUR MIND WAS THAT THEY WERE FRONTING FOR A THIS-SIDE-OF-THE-LAW-RACKET....

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

ROSEWOOD ESTATES WAS ONE OF THOSE GOOD LOOKING BUT STANDARDIZED LOW-PRICED DEVELOPMENTS MUSHROOMING EVERYWHERE TO MEET THE POST-WAR HOUSING DEMAND. YOU KNOW THE KIND--BLOCK AFTER BLOCK OF IDENTICAL HOUSES. FOR ABOUT A MONTH, THE DOWDS JUST MADE FRIENDS, BUT *THEN*--

IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT WORD OF THE PATIO SHOULD SPREAD THROUGH THE DEPELOPMENT. EVERYBODY KEPT WATCHING IT GO UP---AND THEY ALL TOOK A DEEP BREATH WHEN IT WAS FINISHED!

IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE FIRST SUCKER BIT...

AL, COULD YOU GIVE ME THE NAME OF THE OUTFIT THAT DID THE WORK FOR YOU?
SURE--IT'S *PATIOS, INC.* BUT I'M WARNING YOU RIGHT NOW--THEIR PROFIT MARGIN'S SO LOW, THEY HAVE A WAITING LIST A MILE LONG!

HMM... REAL NICE. BUT WON'T IT SET YOU BACK A BIG WAD OF DOUGH?
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW LITTLE IT COSTS...AND HOW EASY THE PAYMENTS ARE! MATTER OF FACT, I'M KEEPING MY OWN FINGERS CROSSED TILL IT'S FINISHED!

THAT LOW HUM OF TALK OVER ALL THE DINNER TABLES IN ROSEWOOD ESTATES, WAS FOCUSED ON NOTHING BUT THE NEW PATIO--

DID YOU SEE THE DOWD'S PLACE, HON? IT MAKES ALL THE OTHER HOUSES LOOK LIKE SHACKS!
WOULD BE SWELL FOR THE KIDS...WOULDN'T IT?
DO YOU THINK WE COULD AFFORD ONE, DEAR?

THE RACKETEERS PLAYED IT SMART. THEY MADE THE FIRST SUCKER DANGLE.

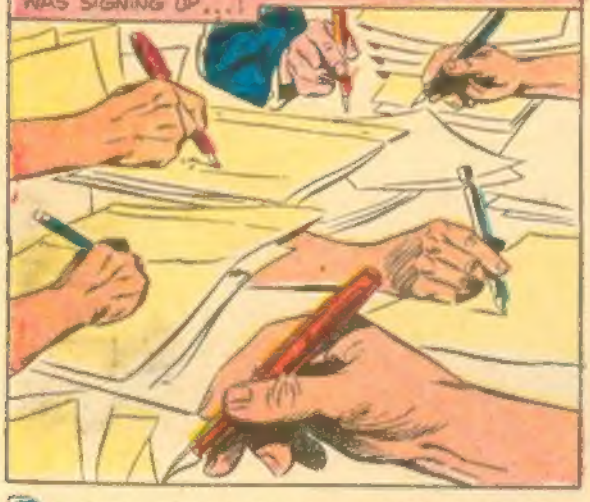
AL DOWD REFERRED ME. I'D LIKE A PATIO JUST LIKE HIS.
YOU AND EVERYBODY ELSE...! ALL I CAN DO IS PUT YOU ON OUR WAITING LIST. I'LL SEND A MAN AROUND WITH A CONTRACT AS SOON AS I CAN HANDLE THE JOB...!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

TIME KEPT PASSING....AND THE DOWD HOME WAS STILL THE SHOWPLACE OF THE DEVELOPMENT, AND MORE SUCKERS BEGAN CLAMORING TO BE TAKEN!...

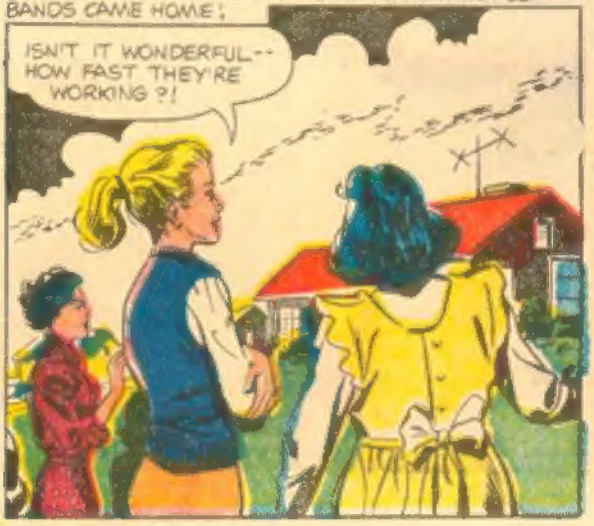
IT WAS ALMOST SPRING NOW---AND WITH WARM WEATHER COMING, THE SUCKERS COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE BUT THOSE BEAUTIFUL PATIOS. SO WHEN THE MAN FROM **PATIOS, INC.** CAME CALLING...

THE TERMS WERE DIRT-CHEAP FOR THE QUALITY OF WORKMANSHIP EVERYBODY HAD ADMIRED IN AL DOWD'S PATIO. AND BEFORE LONG, **EVERYBODY** WAS SIGNING UP...!



THE TRUCKS WITH THE PRE-MIXED SANDY CEMENT AND CHEAP GREEN LUMBER, CAME ON A TUESDAY MORNING JUST ONE HOUR AFTER ALL THE HUSBANDS HAD CAUGHT THE COMMUTERS' SPECIAL INTO THE CITY...

THE PATIOS WERE ALL FINISHED BY FIVE O'CLOCK THE SAME DAY... JUST ONE HOUR BEFORE ALL THE HUSBANDS CAME HOME:



BUT WHEN THE HUSBANDS CAME HOME ----

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

IT WAS AN ANGRY BUNCH OF MEN THAT STORMED INTO DATOS INC. BUT THE BIG BOSS WAS WAITING FOR THEM--

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE DIDN'T GET MORE EXACTLY WHAT YOU PROMISED FOR

WE DO NOT! THOSE AREN'T THE ARMS WE ORDERED

NOT SMALL PRINT ON YOUR

YOU'RE RUNNING A RACKET! NONE OF US

I ALREADY HAVE MY

A COLLECTION FOR EVER THEM

THEY

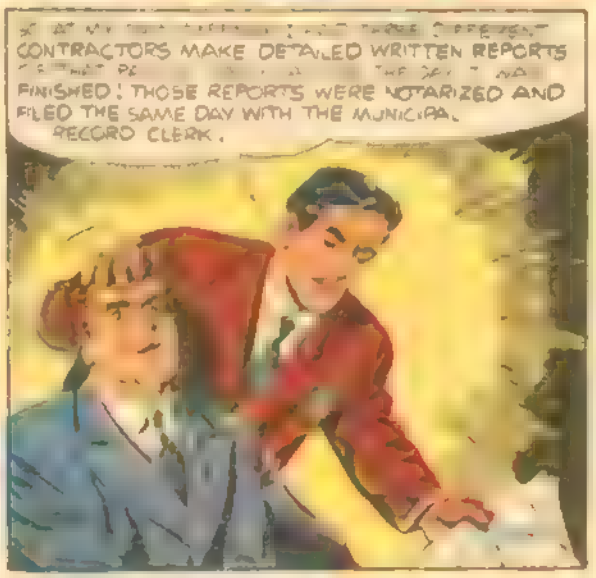
THE NEXT DAY A DELEGATION CAME TO THE RACKET

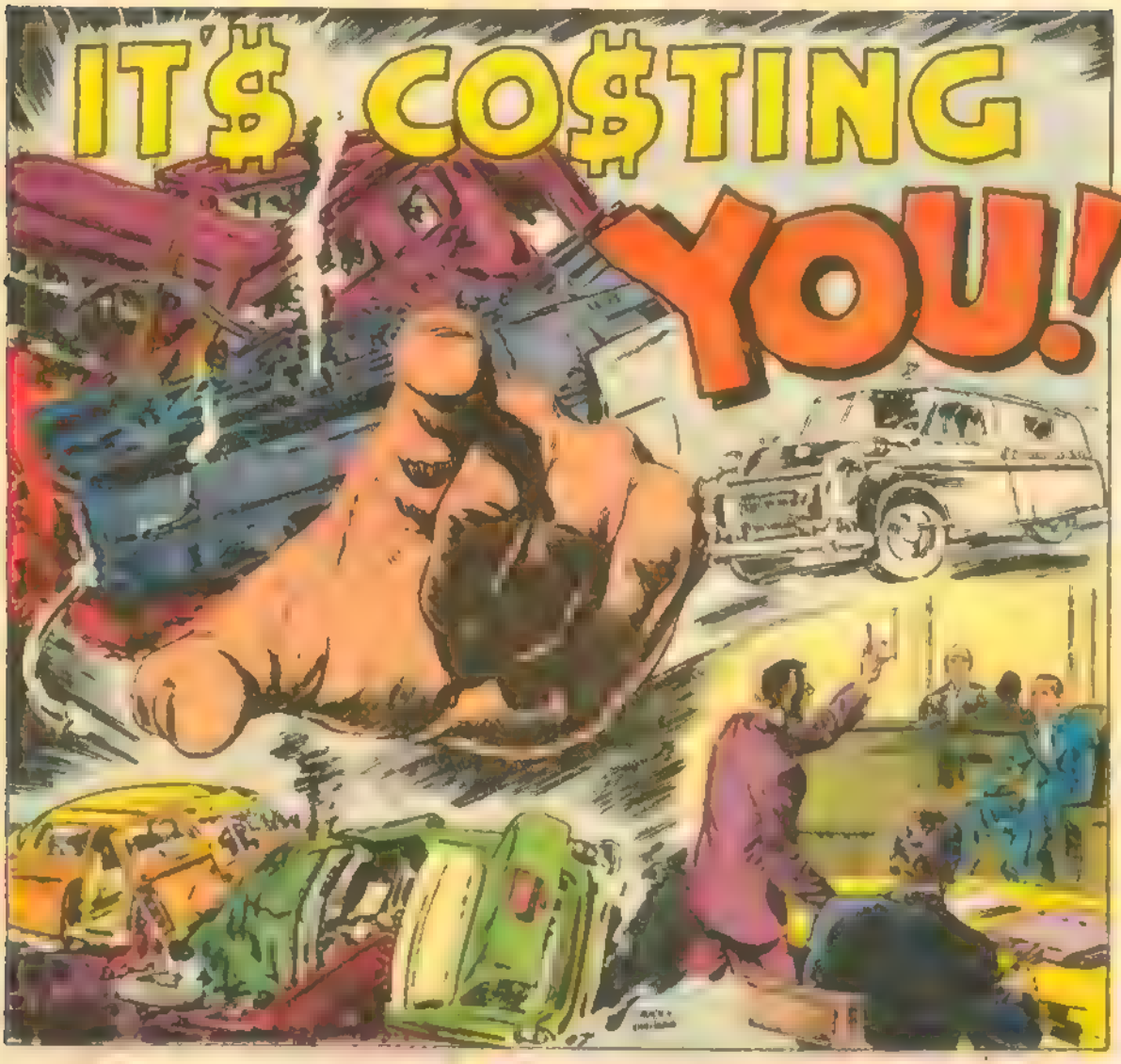
OUR HANDS ARE TIED... THOSE SKUNKS ARE

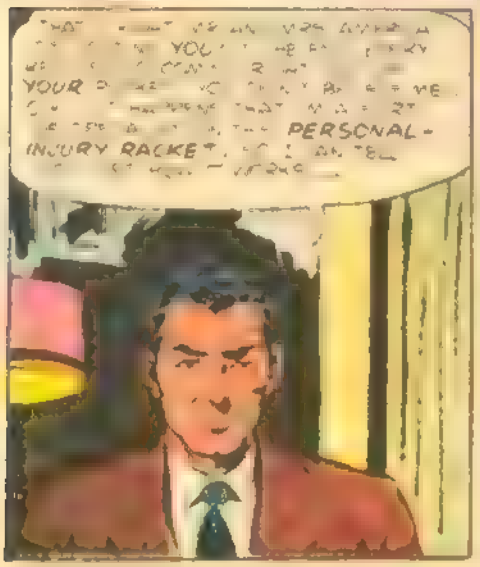
YOU'VE BEEN SITTING HERE! NO DOUBT ABOUT IT--- DOWDS WERE NG FOR THE GANG THEY LEFT TOWN YESTERDAY....AND THE R HOUSE IS ALREADY LISTED FOR

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION


CONTRACTORS MAKE DETAILED WRITTEN REPORTS
FINISHED! THOSE REPORTS WERE NOTARIZED AND
FILED THE SAME DAY WITH THE MUNICIPAL
RECORD CLERK.


IT'$ CO$TING YOU!


YOUR PERSONAL-INJURY RACKET

SAM SMITH

MEN! WOMEN! BOYS! GIRLS!

YOURS FOR ONLY 1¢

THIS STUNNING ASSORTMENT OF

[illegible] ALL OCCASION GREETING CARDS

YOU WON'T BE ASKED TO RETURN IT!

Just to prove how easily a few spare hours CAN EARN YOU $50 CASH!

[illegible] before a "get-acquainted" offer [illegible]

[illegible] ned ALL-OCCASION [illegible]

[illegible] you can make $[illegible]

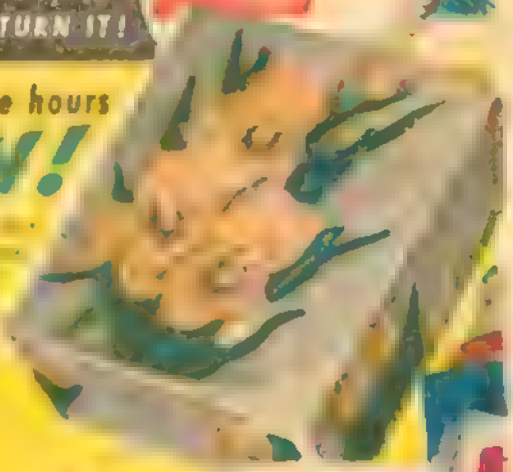
[illegible] and mail the coupon below. We'll promptly send [illegible] a beautiful new box of All-Occasion Cards as [illegible] JUST ONE SINGLE PENNY is all you pay [illegible] of fat cards and envelopes that would usually [illegible] $[illegible]

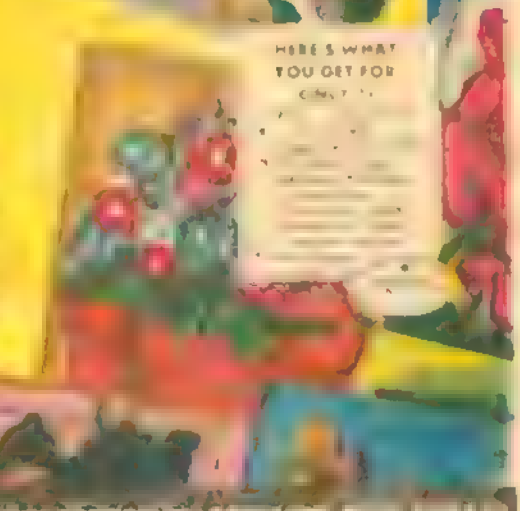
[illegible]

ARTISTIC CARD CO., INC.

810 Way Street, Elmira, New York

[illegible] 107 Sherbourne St., Toronto 5, Ontario





[illegible] THIS COUPON AT ONCE AND [illegible]

ARTISTIC CARD CO., INC.
810 Way St., Elmira, N. Y.

[illegible]

Name [illegible]

Address [illegible]

City & [illegible]

[illegible]

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

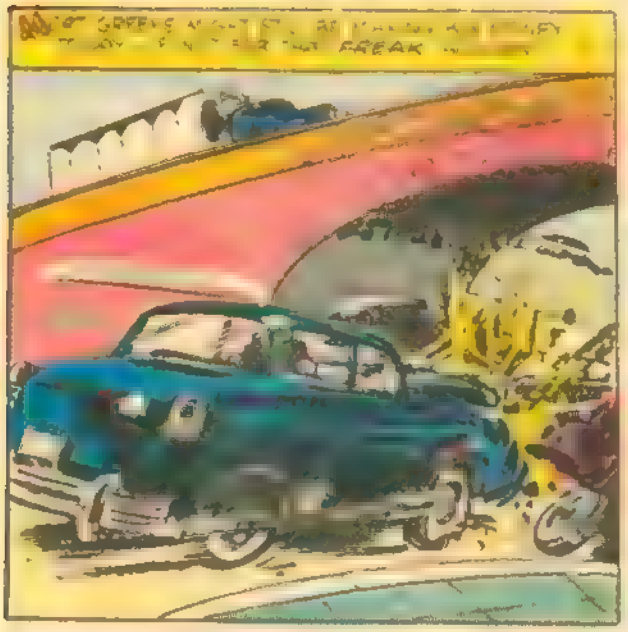
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

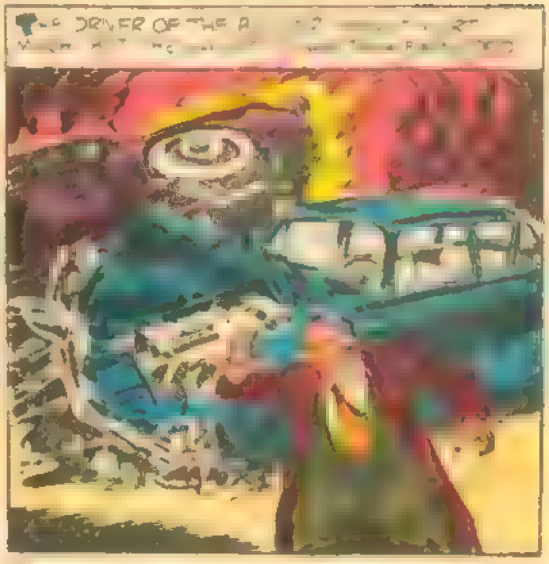
BE GLAD TO. LAST THING I'D WANT YOU TO FEEL IS THAT YOU'RE BEING RUSHED.
GUESS WHAT? MY COMPANY'S OFFERING ME A WEEKLY ADVANCE OF $75. AND THAT'S JUST THE... THEY COME ACROSS WITH A SETTLEMENT!
...ONE-THIRD

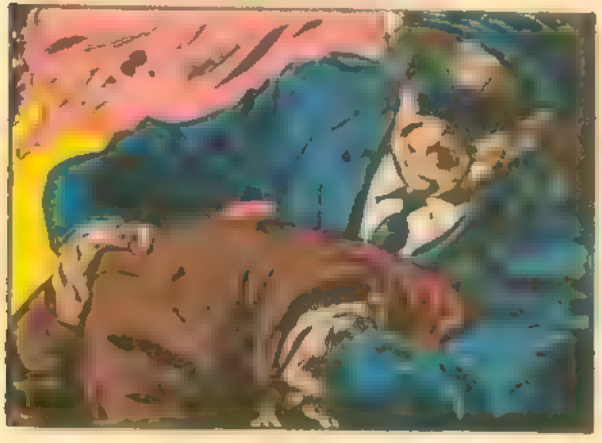
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

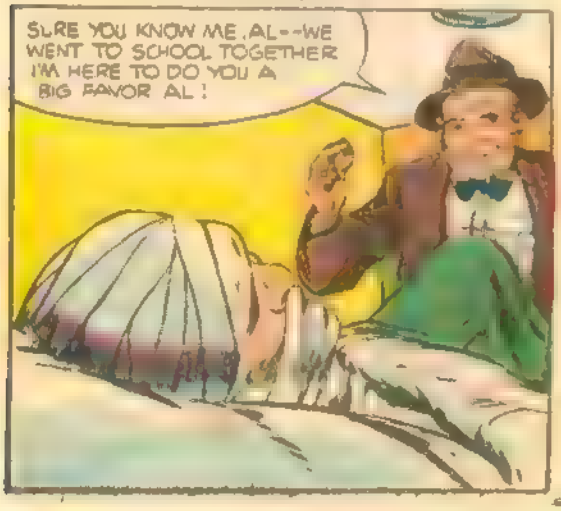
SO THAT'S HOW SAM GOT TAKEN!.. NOW I'LL BET YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW IT'S COSTING YOU? O.K. NUMBER ONE --- THE PERSONAL-INJURY RACKET SENDS ALL ACCIDENT INSURANCE PREMIUMS ZOOMING UP! NUMBER TWO-- SINCE TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES ARE HIT HARDEST FARES GO UP
AND NUMBER THREE -- BECAUSE OF ALL THE RACKETEERS, JURIES HAVE COME TO LOOK GLASS-EYED AT EVERYBODY WITH INJURIES AND SO HONEST PEOPLE AND UPSTANDING
COULD BE YOU HAVE SOME QUESTIONS NOW ON THE RACKETEERS THEMSELVES, LIKE--DO LAW ASSOCIATES LET LAWYERS GET AWAY WITH THAT STUFF: AMBULANCE CHASING AND TALKING PEOPLE INTO LITIGATION?
OF COURSE NOT! THE FACT IS THAT THE BIGGEST RACKETEER OF THEM ALL--MORT GREENE--WAS A LAWYER WHO'D BEEN DISBARRED! SO NOW HE WORKED BEHIND THE SCENES.
GREENE HAD A NATION-WIDE SET-UP. HE WENT SO FAR AS TO HAVE MEN WITH CAR RADIOS TUNED IN ON POLICE BROADCASTS
ACCIDENT ON VINE AND FOURTH..!
AND THERE WERE TIMES WHEN HIS MEN GOT TO THE ACCIDENT SCENE BEFORE THE AMBULANCE! AND ONCE ON THE SPOT THEY GOT RIGHT TO WORK
YOU HAVE TO BE PRACTICAL, MA'AM... ESPECIALLY AT A TIME LIKE THIS! YOUR HUSBAND'S IN BAD SHAPE YOU HAVE TO START THINKING RIGHT NOW...

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



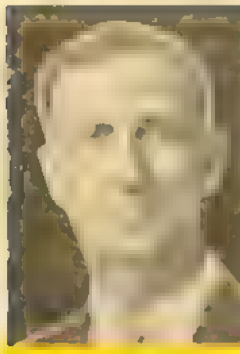





THE DOCTORS WERE UP A TREE. THEY WERE WILLING TO TRY ANYTHING. SO THEY DECIDED TO ALLOW VISITORS
SURE YOU KNOW ME, AL--WE WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER I'M HERE TO DO YOU A BIG FAVOR AL!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



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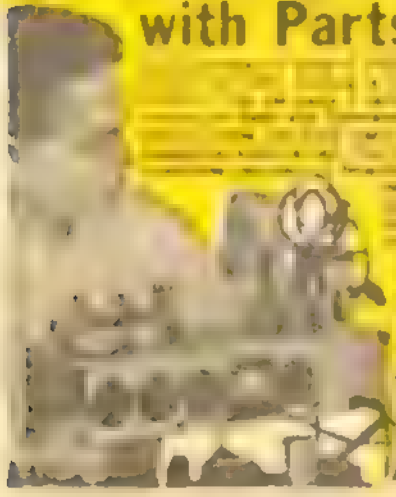

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RACKET LINGO

Many people are intrigued by what they consider the picturesque slang of the pitchman, carnival grifter and even outright crooks like shortchangers and pickpockets. Some of the phrases coined by such characters are indeed colorful but the term "slang" does not fully define them.

By slang, we mean words which have gained wide popular usage to become part of colloquial speech. They are terms of the moment, the passing by words of our language.

Once the term "Beat it" — still commonly used — was expressed by 'Skidoo," now rarely heard and "Twenty-three" which is no longer used at all. Those are typical slang terms.

The expression "pooch" for dog, "mug" for mouth, "map" for face, are examples of slang. Some such words do come from odd and sometimes questionable sources, but they are hardly slang until they are recognized by the public at large.

Prior to that, the term cant is a better definition.

Under the head of cant come technical phrases, largely as the dialect of a special group. Thus the carnival worker who refers to himself as a "carney" and calls his accomplice a "shill" or a "stick" is talking in cant, rather than slang.

In brief, he is using terms not generally known, his cant, in a sense, is slang of a restricted sort. A carney doesn't eat, he "scoffs." The suitcase that he carries is a "kiester." A pitchman's tripod, which he uses to set up his stand, is known as a "tripe" in his lingo.

All such terms are easily picked by by anyone who frequents a carnival or listens to pitchmen chatter. That is why cant phrases frequently creep into more general usage and become regular slang.

The situation deepens when we strike words that are deliberately coined to baffle the chance listener. Here we are delving into underworld lingo and such talk comes under the head of argot, which dates back to the days of the English rogues, who had a language practically all their own.

In modern argot, short change artists refer to their racket as a "hype." A pickpocket "weeds a poke" when he goes through a stolen wallet. If on the run, he is "on the duff."

Once it was common to say that a person was "wise" when he caught onto something. When this became too commonly used, the term "hep" was substituted for "wise." Today, a 'hep ghee' is somebody who twenty years ago would have been classed as "wised up."

In developing their argot, the racket crowd follows the usual rules as applied to slang. For instance: some years ago, wisecrackers used to refer to a wife as "the storm and strife." Soon, this was simply shortened to "the storm." A similar case, in racket parlance, is found the term 'On the earie" which means to listen in. The term 'earie" is pronounced like Erie, which in turn suggested Lake Erie, so now the hep ghee who knows his racket lingo uses the expression "On the lake" to mean that someone is overhearing plenty.

When two fast talkers begin the throw in phrases especially designed to confuse the listener, their lingo comes under the head of jargon.

Gypsies have been specialists of jargon, some of their dialect being merely a form of double talk. Thus Hog Latin and other types of jargon are often regarded as imitations of gypsy speech. Of recent years, Hog Latin has found its way into slang. Such an expression as 'Scram' has been changed to "Amscray," while 'Nix" becomes 'Ixnay' — all in accordance with the Hog Latin of putting the beginning of a word at the end and adding 'ay' to it.

A lot of gags have resulted from this, such as the one of an actress who become so addicted to Hog Latin that she began calling her dog Rex by the name of X-ray. But it is doubtful whether the average man who thinks he knows his Hog Latin would be able to catch it around a carnival lot, where ears are really tuned to a particular jargon.

It's like learning the Morse Code. A person

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

can memorize it and call off letters in dots and dashes. But to walk into a telegraph office and read it right off the wire, requires long experience. You don't hear carnies slinging Hog Latin back and forth as their habitual vernacular. They save it for the right occasions and then insert it as required.

This jargon is particularly deceptive when a carney throws it in with his spiel or pitch. Let's take a case in point.

One season the Great A and Z shows ran into trouble in the town of Bloomerdale. The police showed up with orders to crack down on all gambling devices. This meant that they were going to "slough the wheels" as carnies put it. Games of chance, such as percentage wheels, electric floshers and similar devices, all were taboo.

Booths that had dart boards, pop in buckets, cats on a rack and all such were allowed to operate. They were regarded as science and skill because the local constabulary didn't know that such games were gaffed. So as the police came along, knocking off the concessions one by one, they went right by the "skill joints."

Old Pete, a carney of long standing, was running a dart game and he saw the law go by. A dozen booths along was Pete's pal Bill who operated a Big Six Wheel. Naturally, Bill had to be told and it was up to Pete to tell him.

Here is the way Pete jargoned him:

"Step right up folks and try your skill! Illblay, ohh ay! Not a game of chance — pure science and sheer skill — illblay opsay — and the more you try, the better you get. Science and skill — illblay ohh ay, opsay — the more you try the more you win!

By the time the police reached Bill's joint the Big Six Wheel was packed and Bill was driving away in his car. He'd noted those insertions in Pete's familiar leather lunged spiel. Out of what the police mistook for a usual pitch, Bill had translated the warning:

Bill — blow! Bill — cops! Bill — blow — cops!"

To expidite their jargon and further disguise it, carnival workers frequently use odd but meaningless phrases. One sideshow "talker" for example, would constantly refer to somebody or something as coming "From the Isle of Malagoola" and other odd expressions. He had no trouble putting in more significant statements when he wanted.

Another old hand who ran a refreshment stand delighted in such slogans as "Lemonade — made in the shade — by an old maid — and "Right off the ice — twice as nice — as Paradise! Any departure from that familiar singsong would be noted promptly by other carnies but never by the forces of law and order when they visited the carnival lot intent upon making a pinch.

Not too many years ago "double talk" became the vogue. Somebody would ask: What happened to the frammis that I left on the trabbet? A storekeeper would be stumped by the query: Do you carry dollands? I need about size three for an old nikkovar — a brass one.

The odd words were, of course, meaningless, but experts at double talk soon found that they could carry on a conversation between themselves by simply sprinkling it with double talk that they personally ignored but which confused the listener immensely.

The next step was to coin expressions that sounded like double talk words but had a definite meaning. So the lingo of today is really full of them.

For example: the word gut on which might mean anything to the chance listener signifies "jewelry" to those whose specialty is stealing it. When a "fix" has been arranged so that the racketeers can move into a territory the word is passed that the "alzo" is set. Jumping to the other extreme of the alphabet the term "Xex" is used as a warning against some slip from plans.

In the higher brackets of the rackets a "shed" is the term for a railroad station. A "scatter" means a saloon. A "law" is a bankroll. A "mark" is a sucker and a "sting" is to take his money, which becomes a "touch" or "score" after it has been taken. Money itself is known under a variety of terms from "ridge" denoting small change to "coarse ones" which are the big bills used to make up a huge bankroll, which will impress a sucker who has been ripened for a confidence game.

Such samples of the con man's lingo show plainly that experts in those rackets can tip each other off to certain facts within actual earshot of their victims.

As for the games themselves, they have names for those too. Every swindle has its trade title, so to speak. Such terms as the "flop," the "frame," the "pigeon," the "spud" or the "wipe" may mean anything to the average chump except what they really signify. Games that are craftily designed to part him from his money.

Yes, the ways and wiles of the racketeers are many, but their lingo is even more varied than their methods.

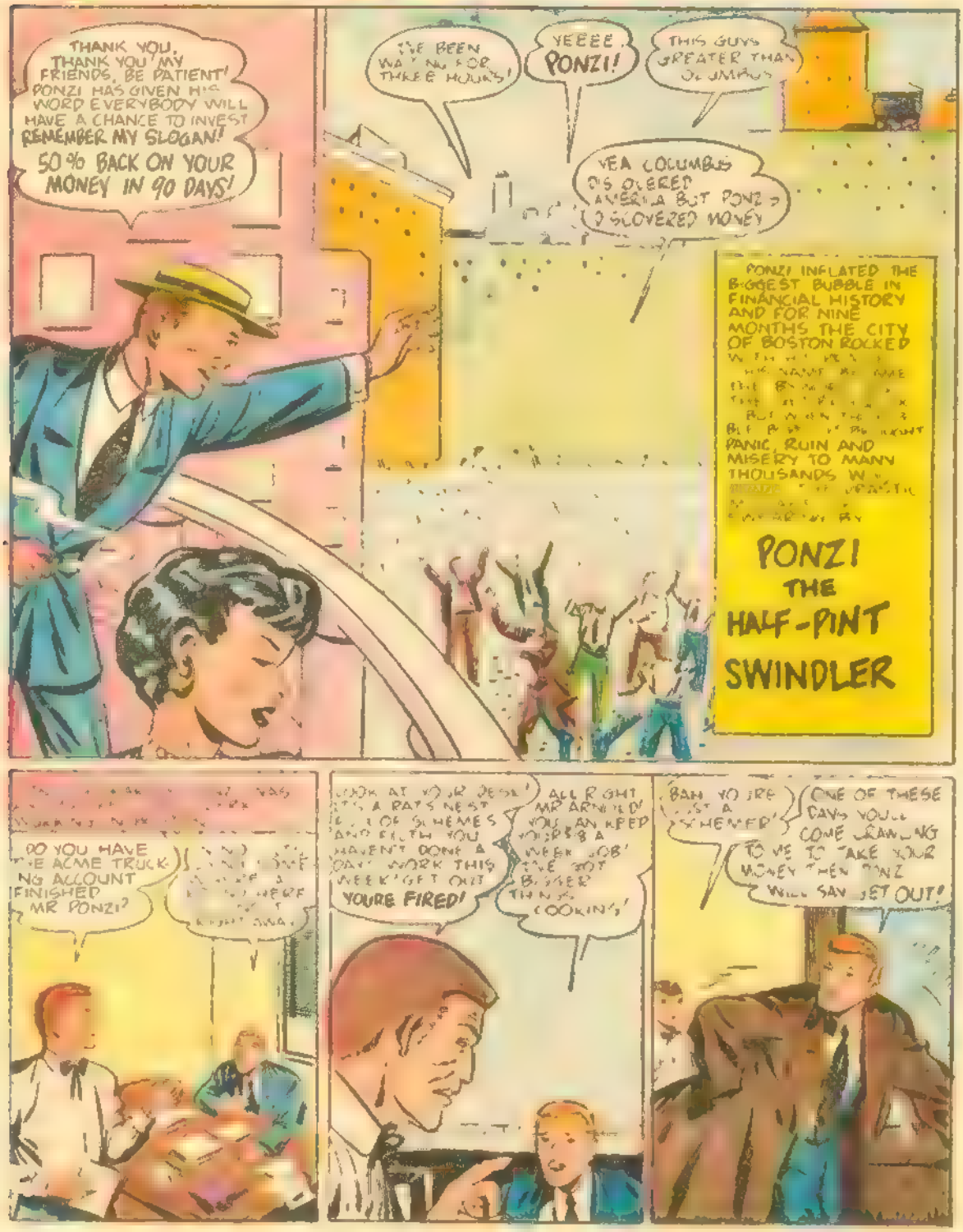
— The End —

CUT THE ACE!

TO SHOW YOU HOW I CAN BE WITH A DECK OF CARDS
ARE THE DECK . YOUR OWN CARDS, AND DEAL THEM! I'LL BET YOU FIVE DOLLARS THAT I CUT AN ACE OF SPADES ON MY VERY FIRST CHANCE!
THAT'S A BET!
MAKE IT TOUGHER
ANYTHING.
MIXED THE DECK... NOW TO CUT THE ACE OF MY FIRST TRY!
FIVE DOLLARS
YOU OWE ME!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

PONZI "THE HALF PINT SWINDLER"


THANK YOU, THANK YOU MY FRIENDS, BE PATIENT! PONZI HAS GIVEN HIS WORD EVERYBODY WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO INVEST REMEMBER MY SLOGAN! 50% BACK ON YOUR MONEY IN 90 DAYS!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THREE HOURS!
YEEEE PONZI!
THIS GUYS GREATER THAN COLUMBUS
YEA COLUMBUS DISCOVERED AMERICA BUT PONZI DISCOVERED MONEY
PONZI INFLATED THE BIGGEST BUBBLE IN FINANCIAL HISTORY AND FOR NINE MONTHS THE CITY OF BOSTON ROCKED
PANIC, RUIN AND MISERY TO MANY THOUSANDS
PONZI THE HALF-PINT SWINDLER
DO YOU HAVE THE ACME TRUCKING ACCOUNT FINISHED MR PONZI?
LOOK AT YOUR DESK! IT'S A RAT'S NEST OF SCHEMES AND FILTH YOU HAVEN'T DONE A DAY'S WORK THIS WEEK GET OUT YOU'RE FIRED!
ALL RIGHT MR ARNOLD! YOU ANKERED MISPRISION A WEEK JOB! I'VE GOT BIGGER THINGS COOKING!
BAH YOU'RE JUST A SCHEMER!
ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'LL COME CRAWLING TO ME TO TAKE YOUR MONEY THEN PONZI WILL SAY GET OUT!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

IN HIS SWANKY THREE ROOM FLAT PONZI BREAKS THE NEWS TO HIS WIFE
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
DON'T WORRY, MARIA! WE'RE GOING TO BE RICHER THAN YOU EVER DREAMED!
IN A FEW DAYS BOSTON IS GOING TO BE TURNED ON ITS EAR! THE SUCKERS WILL COME RUNNING, CRYING FOR PONZI TO TAKE THEIR MONEY AWAY!
OH CHARLES, BE CAREFUL! YOU DID TWO YEARS IN CANADA FOR BEING SMART
THE NEXT DAY AT THE BOSTON GLOBE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE WILL PAY 50% BACK ON YOUR INVESTMENT IN ONLY 90 DAYS!
WHEW MISTER YOU'RE GETTING AROUND HERE A LOT BUT IT'S UNHEARD OF! BANKS ONLY PAY 3%!
DON'T WORRY, SISTER THIS IS ON THE LEVEL! I'VE ME A HALF PAGE SPREAD WITH BIG PRINT AND RUN IT FOR THREE DAYS
YES SIR! SAY COULD I GET IN ON THIS MR PONZI?
A FEW DAYS LATER PONZI'S ATTORNEYS
LOOK AT THIS! PONZI'S EITHER THE GREATEST SWINDLER OR A FINANCIAL WIZ
YES BUT IN THE MEANTIME HUNDREDS OF OUR DEPOSITORS ARE WITHDRAWING THEIR ACCOUNTS!
IF THIS PONZI GETS BIG ENOUGH HE'LL CAUSE A RUN ON THE BANK! THIS NEEDS AN INVESTIGATION!
MEANWHILE AT THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT JUST GIVE ME YOUR NAME AND GET YOUR RECEIPT
HIS GREAT ON DEPENDS ON THIS INVESTMENT
YES SIR! 50% BACK IN 90 DAYS!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE FIRST INVESTORS RECEIVED THEIR MONEY BACK PLUS A
THE NEWS SPREAD LIKE FIRE
INVESTMENTS SAFE, I'M ALL FOR IT!
WE THOUGHT TOO
SUCCESS COMES TO THE MAN WHO HAS COURAGE AND NERVE REWARDS ARE FOR THOSE WHO TAKE CHANCES
GO OUT AND FIND ANYTHING YOU CAN ABOUT THIS
YES,
IF THERE ANYTHING

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

AND YOU SAY YOU GOT YOUR INVESTMENT BACK IN 45 DAYS ?
THAT'S RIGHT AND I'M GOING TO PUT ALL THE PROFIT BACK IN PONZI ETC ETC
AND YOU FOUND NOTHING FRAUDULENT ?
NOT A THING COMMISSIONER EVERYBODY SWEARS BY HIM.
THE PRESS WAS ALSO INTERESTED.
THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES MR PUNZ BUT OUR READERS WANT TO KNOW HOW IT WORKS !
IT'S A SECRET BOYS BUT I'LL LET YOU IN ON IT I'VE GOT AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD WATCHING THE MONEY MARKET !
WHEN THE MARKET DROPS IN A COUNTRY WE BUY ! WHEN CHANGE BACK INTO DOLLARS THAT'S WHEN I MAKE MY KILLING IT'S A RISE BUT MY MEN ARE SMART !
IT'S NOT TOO CLEAR TO ME BUT YOU SEEM TO KNOW YOUR BUSINESS MR PONZI !
MEANWHILE POLICE HEADQUARTERS KEPT ON THE TRAIL . . .
JUST LIKE WE THOUGHT ! ACCORDING TO THIS, PONZI HAS NO AGENTS ABROAD !
HEY, THIS IS REALLY HOT ! IT SAYS HERE THAT PONZI SERVED TWO YEARS FOR EMBEZZLEMENT UP IN ONTARIO !
HE'S ALSO GOT A RECORD AS A CON MAN !
WUXTRY ! WUXTRY !
BOSTON GLOBE
PONZI IS EXPOSED AS SWINDLER !!!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE PONZI!
I WAS ONLY GOING ON A VACATION CRUISE!
STOW IT! YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE A LONG VACATION AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE!

FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE CHARLES PONZI I'D LIKE TO SEND YOU AWAY FOR LIFE BUT THE LAW SAYS THREE AND A HALF YEARS!
I GOT CAUGHT, BUT DOZENS OF BIG SHOTS GET AWAY WITH THE SAME THING EVERY DAY!

SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN SUCKED UP BY PONZI! HE HAD BACK TWO MILLION TO THE DARLER INVESTORS AND THREE MILLION WERE FOUND BY THE POLICE THE PUBLIC HAS BEEN FLEECED OF TWO MILLION DOLLARS IN NINE SHORT MONTHS!

NO SOONER RELEASED FROM JAIL FOR THE SWINDLE THAN PONZI WAS IN BUSINESS AGAIN, THIS TIME IN FLORIDA!

GET IN FAST THERE'S A LAND BOOM DOWN HERE AND FORTUNES TO BE PICKED UP!
YOU CERTAINLY OWN A LOT OF LAND! COUNT ME IN FOR 10 ACRES!
WELL I'LL THINK IT OVER AND SEE YOU TOMORROW!

MR PONZI I'M FROM FLORIDA STATE POLICE
BUT THE MAP SHOWS WHERE IT IS!
MR GRANT HERE WANTS TO SEE THE LAND YOU WANT TO SELL HIM
THAT WAS FROM YOU! I WANT TO SEE THE ACTUAL LAND!

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Ventro & Book

[illegible] behind doors and every [illegible] in your mouth and o[illegible]

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No [illegible] 1.50

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Talk Sing Play thru your radio

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[illegible] Embarrassing noises Made of rubber and inflatable A scream at parties and gath[illegible]

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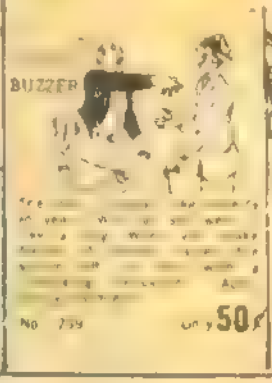

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3.98

[illegible] they [illegible] without knowing it

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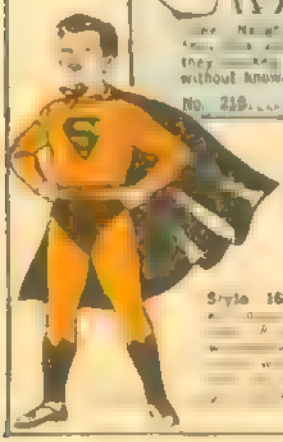

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Style 1601M

Style 1601M For you he men we've got the new [illegible]

6.98

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Cannot ship orders total[illegible]ing less than $1.00 Mail one the [illegible] listed below [illegible] on approval [illegible] return any pair of the [illegible] after 10 days free [illegible] for [illegible] refund of the purchase price

Style #	Name of Item	How Many	Total Price

[illegible] Products only will pay postage

Send [illegible] extra guarantee on delivery plus a few cents postage

NAME

ADDRESS

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

ALL UNDER THE OCEAN!
SEVEN YEARS! HE SHOULDA GOT A HUNDRED!
AT THE END OF THOSE SEVEN YEARS DEPORTATION!
I'LL BE BACK! YOU CAN'T KEEP PONZI AWAY FROM THE GRAVY!
SAY WHILE WE'RE COVERING THE CONFERENCE HERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AN END OF PONZI, THE HALF PINT WE GOT PUT AWAY BACK IN BOSTON IN 1920?
DON'T TELL ME HE'S OPERATING IN RIO
WHAT A COME-DOWN FOR THE W. BABB' NEARLY BLIND AND IN A CHARITY HOSPITAL!
SEEM TO REMEMBER DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS?
I WAS IN THE CHIPS YEH YES AND I'LL COME BACK TO THE TOP AGAIN! I'LL BE OUT OF HERE IN NO TIME!
YEAH! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT DREAMING OF MILLIONS AS USUAL TO MAKE A KILLING. EST BUCK!
BUT PONZI'S LUCK RAN OUT THERE WAS ONE GUY HE COULDN'T OUTWOLF THE GRIM REAPER
CHARLES PONZI AGE 66
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ALL THE MILLIONS HE MADE
AND AN OLD WATCH LEFT JUST ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM OUT OF A PAUPER'S GRAVE!
Earl

CLEANING UP THE RACES
THE FAMOUS DETECTIVE AGENCY, THE PINKERTON'S, HAVE BEEN CALLED TO THE RACES FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING THE KING OF SPORTS... A CLEAN SPORT!!
THEY'VE INSTALLED FOUR TOWERS AROUND THE TRACK AND CAMERAMEN FILM THE RACE CONSTANTLY. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE CAMERA AT THE FINISH LINE!
THE VERY SECOND THE HORSES REACH THE FINISH LINE, A STATION WAGON GOES TO EACH TOWER AND PICKS UP THE FILM!!
THE FILMS ARE DEVELOPED ON THE SPOT AND EXAIMINED TO SEE THAT THE RACE WAS ON THE LEVEL! NOBODY CAN DISAGREE ON THE WINNER WHEN THE RECORD IS OFFICIALLY FILMED!
WHENEVER A HORSE ACTS SUSPICIOUS, A SAMPLE IS TAKEN OF HIS SALIVA AND TESTED TO SEE IF IT CONTAINS ANY DOPE! EVERY PRECAUTION IS TAKEN TO MAKE AND KEEP RACING A CLEAN SPORT IN AMERICA!

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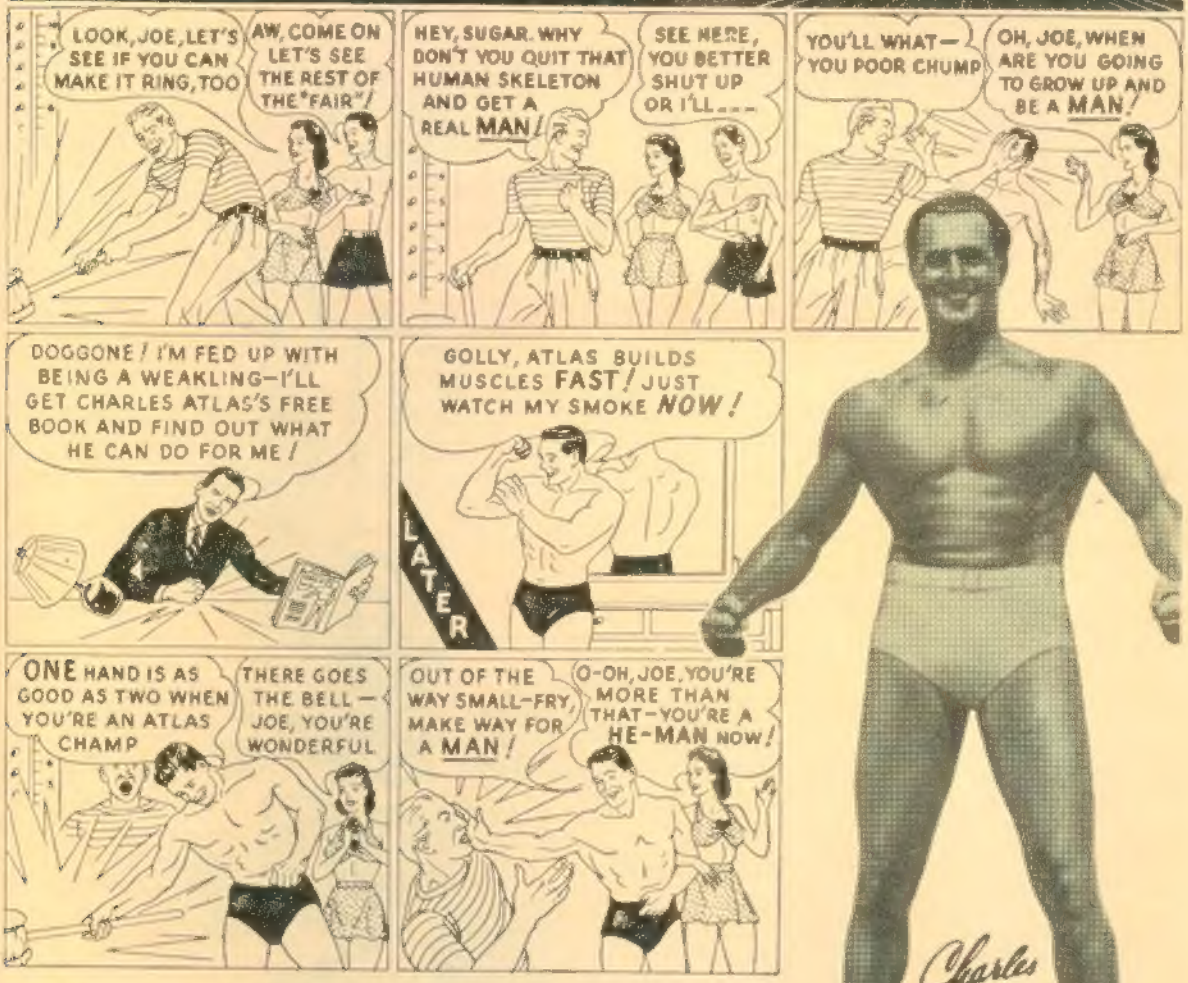
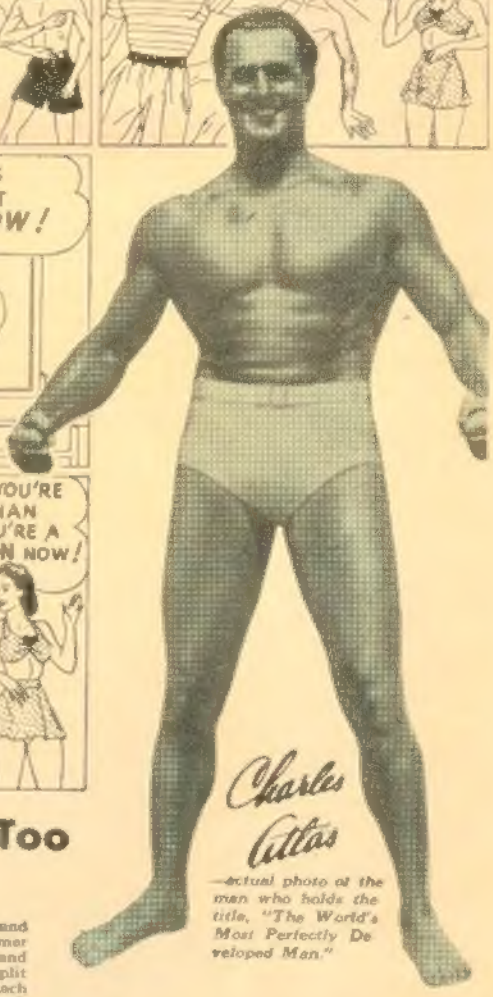
City_____ State_____

The Insult That Turned a "CHUMP" Into a CHAMP


LOOK, JOE, LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN MAKE IT RING, TOO
AW, COME ON LET'S SEE THE REST OF THE "FAIR"!
HEY, SUGAR. WHY DON'T YOU QUIT THAT HUMAN SKELETON AND GET A REAL MAN!
SEE HERE, YOU BETTER SHUT UP OR I'LL...
YOU'LL WHAT— YOU POOR CHUMP
OH, JOE, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GROW UP AND BE A MAN!
DOGGONE! I'M FED UP WITH BEING A WEAKLING—I'LL GET CHARLES ATLAS'S FREE BOOK AND FIND OUT WHAT HE CAN DO FOR ME!
GOLLY, ATLAS BUILDS MUSCLES FAST! JUST WATCH MY SMOKE NOW!
LATER
ONE HAND IS AS GOOD AS TWO WHEN YOU'RE AN ATLAS CHAMP
THERE GOES THE BELL— JOE, YOU'RE WONDERFUL
OUT OF THE WAY SMALL-FRY, MAKE WAY FOR A MAN!
O-OH, JOE, YOU'RE MORE THAN THAT—YOU'RE A HE-MAN NOW!



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HAVE YOU ever felt like Joe—absolutely fed up with having bigger, huskier fellows "push you around"? If you have, then give me just 15 minutes a day! I'LL PROVE you can have a body you'll be proud of, packed with red-blooded vitality!

"*Dynamic Tension*." That's the secret! That's how I changed myself from a scrawny, 97-pound weakling to winner of the title, "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

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Using "*Dynamic Tension*" only 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own room, you quickly begin to put on muscle, increase your chest size, broaden your back, fill out your arms and legs. This easy, NATURAL method will make you a finer specimen of REAL MANHOOD than you ever dreamed you could be!

You Get Results FAST

Almost before you realize it, you will notice a general "toning up" of your entire system! You will have more pep, bright eyes, clear head, real spring and zip in your step! You get sledge-hammer fists, a battering ram punch—chest and back muscles so big they almost split your coat seams—ridges of solid stomach muscle—mighty legs that never get tired. You're a New Man!

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I want the proof that your system of "*Dynamic Tension*" will help make a New Man of me—give me a healthy, husky body and big muscular development. Send me your free book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

Name_____ Age_____
(Please print plainly)

Address_____

City_____ Zone No. (if any)_____ State_____

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The FUNman, Dept. L-109,
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FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG

Please rush to me on credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained under description of prize in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 30 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

NAME ..... AGE .....

STREET or RFD .....

TOWN ..... Zone ..... STATE .....

SEND NO MONEY . . . We Trust You!